

## Lesson 1.14 Gerunds, Participles, and Infinitives

### Identify It

In the sentences below, underline the gerunds and circle the infinitives.

1. If you want to protect the planet, there are many things you can do.
2. Hanging clothes out to dry instead of using an electric dryer saves energy.
3. It's easy to save water by turning off the tap while you brush your teeth.
4. Reusing items for new purposes keeps them from ending up in the trash.
5. You can purchase a reusable water bottle, and then you won't need to wash as many glasses each day.
6. Cleaning with old t-shirts or rags saves money and paper towels.
7. If you'd like to reduce your energy bills, lower the thermostat two degrees in winter.
8. Forget about plastic bags! Buying reusable lunch bags saves money and reduces the amount of plastic in landfills.
9. Most people are already in the habit of recycling, but if you aren't, it's not too late to start!
10. Try to remember to turn off the lights when you leave a room.



### Try It

Write a sentence for each of the participles in the box.

broken   laughing   painted   caring   bruised   winding

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

## Lesson 1.14 Gerunds, Participles, and Infinitives

**Gerunds, participles, and infinitives** are other kinds of verbs. These verbs take the role of another part of speech in some circumstances.

A **gerund** is when a verb is used as a noun. A verb can take the form of the noun when the ending *-ing* is added.

*Jumping* on the trampoline is Eddie's favorite afternoon activity.  
(The subject *jumping* is a noun in the sentence.)

A **participle** is when a verb is used as an adjective. A verb can take the form of an adjective when the endings *-ing* or *-ed* are added.

Carrie extended a *trembling* hand to her grandmother.  
(*trembling* modifies *hand*)  
The *injured* raccoon limped slowly into the woods.  
(*injured* modifies *raccoon*)

An **infinitive** is when a verb is used as a noun, adjective, or adverb. A verb can take the form of a noun, adjective, or adverb when preceded by the word *to*.

To *travel* abroad is something that everyone should have the chance to do.  
(The verb *to travel* acts as the subject, or noun, of the sentence.)  
Josiah has a book report to *finish* by tomorrow.  
(The verb *to finish* acts as an adjective modifying *book report*.)  
On Thursday, the inspector arrived to *check* the leaks.  
(The verb *to check* acts as an adverb modifying *arrived*.)

### Complete It

Rewrite each of the verbs in parentheses as a gerund to complete the sentence.

- \_\_\_\_\_ more than one language is a skill that an increasing number of Americans have. (to speak)
- \_\_\_\_\_ a second language at an early age is an excellent idea. (to learn)
- Although it is never too late to learn another language, \_\_\_\_\_ bilingual when you are young is much easier than waiting until adulthood. (to become)
- It is also true that \_\_\_\_\_ a foreign language helps you understand other cultures. (to understand)
- \_\_\_\_\_ in America, you are less likely to speak a foreign language than in many other places in the world. (to live)
- \_\_\_\_\_ your family and friends with a few words in another language can be fun! (to surprise)